

Docket No.: 65825(52650)  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Kazuhiko Sekimoto et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed. Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For PRODUCT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is  
ven and (2) in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a

foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

(1) Reference BA is cited in the application's Background Art;

(2) References BB 2 through BH were cited in the International Search Report of the priority application of the present application.


In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 65825(52650). A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated. July 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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|   |   |    |   |                          |                        |
|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | Not Yet Assigned 37481 |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | Concurrently Herewith  |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Kazuhiko Sekimoto      |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | N/A                    |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned       |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 65825(52650)           |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          |  |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | JP-2003-312847  | 11-06-2003                        | Marubeni Corp et al.                               |   | ✓              |
|                          | BB                       | JP-2002-123654  | 04-26-2002                        | Mitsubishi Materials Corp.                         |   | ✓              |
|                          | BC                       | JP-2003-040456  | 02-13-2003                        | Palenet Co. Ltd.                                   |   | ✓              |
|                          | BD                       | JP-2003-176004  | 06-24-2003                        | NEC Corp.  |   | ✓              |
|                          | BE                       | JP-2002-087541  | 03-27-2002                        | Nippon Signal Co. Ltd: The                         |   | ✓              |
|                          | BF                       | JP-2001-022834  | 01-26-2001                        | Fuji Xerox Co. Ltd.                                |   | ✓              |
|                          | BG                       | JP-2002-328981  | 11-15-2002                        | KAO Corp.  |   | ✓              |
|                          | BH                       | JP-2003-095413  | 04-03-2003                        | Nitto Soko KK                                      |   | ✓              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | BI                       | International Search Report PCT/JP2005/009525, dated 16 August 2005   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|